GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:558
ANSWERED ON:28.02.2008
COMMERCIAL USE OF DEFENCE AIRSTRIPS
Pandey Dr. Laxminarayan;Tripathy Shri Braja Kishore

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted techno-feasibility study of the Defence airstrips in the country particularly in Chennai;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether the Government proposes to open Defence airstrips for commercial use;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(e) the number of passengers likely to use such Defence airstrips annually; and

(f) the manner in which the Government is going to increase air space for civil aircrafts after permitting commercial use of Defence airstrips?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION(SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c), (d)& (e) Commercial use of Defence Airstrips at 23 locations is already takingplace. Airports Authority of India (AAI) maintains civil enclaves at these places. The projected passenger traffic growth at the civil enclaves maintained by AAI is enclosed at Annexure-I.

(f): Defence airspace is used for civil flights through a civil-military coordination mechanism.